

OCA 88-1149
12 April 1988

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with SSCI staffers Hall and Snider on S-2186 and S-909

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1. On 11 March 1988, [] and I meet with SSCI staffers Brit Snider, minority counsel, and Keith Hall, budget director, to seek their assistance in gaining relief from two Senate bills -- S-2186 (Public Buildings Amendments) and S-909 (Commercial Activities Contracting Act).

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2. The Staffers agreed that S-2186 would adversely affect the Agency, particularly those portions of the bill which would require approval for alterations of buildings in excess of \$2m by Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Public Works and Transportation. They also supported our argument that public establishment of leased building specifications and public competitive bidding would cause cover and security problems. The staffers were uncertain that the Agency was covered by the bill, claiming that we could assert our exclusion based upon the CIA Act of 1949. [] explained that this argument is tenuous and that the Agency interests required that we seek exclusion from S-2186. Snider indicated that he would verify the relevant citings in the bill and that if the Agency were indeed included they would assist us in seeking relief. Snider will advise us of his conclusion.

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3. We discussed in some detail our concerns with the Commercial Activities Contracting Act (S-909), explaining that enactment would bring us under OMB Circular A-76. We explained the budgetary burden as well as the complications to []

[] programs should this bill become law. The staffers reflected their view that this legislation would create "bad law" for all of government, and it was their sense that the bill played well politically because of the implicit savings. However, they thought that upon closer examination during hearings and mark-up the bill would fail. We agreed that we would keep them posted on any movement, and, they agreed that if it looked as if the measure would reach a floor vote they would consider taking action to protect our interests.

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